

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (new): A security fastener comprising an elongated body, said elongated body comprising a first end, a second end and an opening for receiving said first end located at or near the second end, wherein once the first end has been received within the opening, the first end cannot be removed from the opening without destruction of the security fastener or visual indication.

Claim 13 (new): The security fastener of Claim 12 wherein security or identification information can be incorporated into the fastener.

Claim 14 (new): The security fastener of Claim 13 further comprising a tag associated with the elongated body, wherein the security or identification information is incorporated in the tag.

Claim 15 (new): The security fastener of Claim 13 wherein the security or identification information is incorporated into a color associated with the security fastener.

Claim 16 (new): The security fastener of Claim 13 wherein the security or identification information is incorporated into a shape associated with the security fastener.

Claim 17 (new): The security fastener of Claim 13 wherein the security or identification information is in the form of coded information.

Claim 18 (new): The security fastener of Claim 13 wherein the security or identification information is in the form of uncoded information.

Claim 19 (new): A method of securing luggage having a zipper comprising securing the zipper in a configuration that limits access to the contents of the luggage with a fastener that cannot be removed without destruction of the fastener.

Claim 20 (new): The method of Claim 19 wherein the security fastener comprises an elongated body, said elongated body comprising a first end, a second end and an

opening for receiving said first end located at or near the second end, wherein once the first end has been received within the opening, the first end cannot be removed from the opening without destruction of the security fastener, said method further comprising the steps of passing the elongated body through a hole the zipper and through a second opening associated with the zipper in a closed configuration, and passing the first end of the elongated body through the opening.

Claim 21 (new): The method of Claim 19 further comprising the step of attaching a tag to the security fastener, said tag including security or identification information.

Claim 22 (new): The method of Claim 19 wherein security or identification information is associated with the security fastener.

Claim 23 (new): The method of Claim 22 wherein the security or identification information is in the form of coded information.

Claim 24 (new): The method of Claim 22 wherein the security or identification information is in the form of uncoded information.

Claim 25 (new): The method of Claim 22 wherein the security or identification information is in the form of a color associated with the security fastener.

Claim 26 (new): The method of Claim 22 wherein the security or identification information is in the form of a shape associated with the security fastener.

Claim 27 (new): The method of Claim 19 wherein the step of securing the luggage is performed by security personnel.

Claim 28 (new): The method of Claim 19 wherein the fastener provides a visual alert that the contents of a compartment have not been accessed while out of the control of the owner or security personnel.